

Remarks

In the present response, claims 1-5, 7-20, and 22-35 are presented for examination.

Claim Rejections: 35 USC § 103(a)

Claims 1-8, 11-23, 26-32, and 35 are rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over US publication number 2004/0243616 (Benhase) in view of US publication number 2004/0093361 (Therrien) and US publication number 20040205536 (Newman). Claims 9, 24, and 33 are rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over US publication number 2004/0243616 (Benhase) in view of US publication number 2004/0093361 (Therrien) and US publication number 20040205536 (Newman) and USPN 6,832,248 (Byrnes). Claims 10, 25, and 34 are rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over US publication number 2004/0243616 (Benhase) in view of US publication number 2004/0093361 (Therrien) and US publication number 20040205536 (Newman) and USPN 6,832,248 (Byrnes) and US publication number 2005/0039123 (Kuchinsky). These rejections are traversed.

In our telephone conversation of September 17, 2008, Examiner Theriault and patent attorney Philip Lyren discussed amending the independent claims to further state (1) that the storage domain includes a network-attached storage (NAS) device on which the two different file systems are mounted and (2) that nodes on the tree hierarchy represent users and groups having allocated storage. Such amendments would circumvent the current rejections and be allowable subject to a new search. The claims are amended in accordance with that interview and render the current rejections moot.

Respectfully submitted,

/Philip S. Lyren #40,709/

Philip S. Lyren
Reg. No. 40,709
Ph: 832-236-5529